

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-18 (cancelled)

19. (new) A circular blade device (1) for cutting flat marble, granite, glass or similar sheets (5), comprising numerical control means (2) for a cutting head(3) having a blade (14) addressable within a cutting volume and comprising means for manipulating said sheets within said cutting volume, characterised in that the manipulating means for said sheets (5) comprise at least one manipulator member (12) extending from the cutting head (3), said manipulator member being arranged to cooperate with the sheet being cut and comprising suckers.

20. (new) A device as claimed in claim 19, characterised in that said manipulator member is associated with actuator means (15) which enable it to move vertically.

21. (new) A device as claimed in claim 20, characterised in that said actuator means (15) are rigid with the cutting head(3).

22. (new) A device as claimed in claim 20, characterized in that said actuator means (15) are of pneumatic type.

23. (new) A device as claimed in claim 20, characterised in that the numerical control-means (2) control said actuators.

24. (new) A device as claimed in claim 19, characterised in that the suckers operate on the surface of the sheets.

25. (new) A device as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that numerical control means (2) are arranged to move the cutting head (13) along a first, a second and a third axis (7, 8, 9) of translation perpendicular to one another and, moreover, arranged to rotate said cutting head (3) about said third axis (9) to allow diagonal cuts to be made.

26. (new) A device as claimed in claim 25, characterized in that said numerical control means (2) are arranged to rotate said cutting head (3) about a fourth axis (10) perpendicular to said third axis (9), to enable cuts to be made with their edge inclined to the upper and lower surface of the sheet.

27. (new) A device as claimed in claim 19, characterised by presenting a cutting disc (65) disposed below the sheets (5) in such a manner as to operate on the lower face of the sheets(5).

28. (new) A device as claimed in claim 25, characterised in that said cutting disc (56) is disposed to the side of a cutting support (6) on which said sheet (5) is rested during the cutting by the cutting head.

29. (new) A device as claimed in claim 25, characterised in that said cutting disc (65) can be moved vertically by one or more actuators (66).

30. (new) A device as claimed in claim 25, characterised in that said cutting disc (65) forms part of a milling machine (64) rigid both with a frame (63) mounted on vertical guides

(62) and with an actuator (66) for vertically moving said disc (65).

31. (new) A device as claimed in claim 30, characterised in that said vertical guides (62) are fixed to a ledge (60) projecting from said support (6).

32. (new) A device as claimed in claim 25, characterised in that said cutting disc (65) can be moved about a vertical axis of rotation to vary its cutting direction.